

CLAIMS

1. Communications system (20) for a motor vehicle (1) for transmission of information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) from a sending control device to a receiving control device, the communications system (20) comprising an interface (160) for input or output of the information relating to operation of the motor vehicle (1), **wherein** communications is possible by way of an interface (160) by means of a protocol (60) which comprises an operation field (61) for identification of the task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
2. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 1, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises a data field (63) with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
3. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises an ID field (62) for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
4. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises at most the operation field (61), the data field (63) and the ID field (62).
5. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, **wherein** the operation field (61) comprises information which indicates whether the protocol (60) relates to a message to be sent or a received message.

6. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, **wherein** the operation field (61) comprises an information field for identifying a message to be sent or a received message.
7. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 6, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises at most the operation field (61), the data field (63), the ID field (62) and the information field.
8. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 3 to 7, **wherein** the ID field (62) designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) is produced or processed.
9. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the protocol (60) does not comprise a designation of the sending control device.
10. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the protocol (60) does not comprise a designation of the receiving control device.
11. Communications system (20) for a motor vehicle (1) for transmission of information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) from a sending control device to a receiving control device, the communications system (20) comprising a bus system (24), **wherein** the communications system (20) comprises an interface (160) which is independent of the configuration of the bus system (24) for input of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) transmitted by way of the bus system (24) and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) to be transmitted by way of the bus system (24).

12. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 11, **wherein** by way of the bus system (24) a bus protocol (60) is transmitted which is composed essentially of an interface protocol (60) of the interface (160) and data which are specific to the bus system (24).
13. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 12, **wherein** by way of the bus system (24) a bus protocol (60) is transmitted which is composed of an interface protocol (60) of the interface (160) and prefixed data which are specific to the bus system (24).
14. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 12 or 13, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises an operation field (61) for identification of a task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
15. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 12, 13, or 14, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises a data field (63) with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
16. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 12 to 15, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises an ID field (62) for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
17. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 14 to 16, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises at most the operation field (61), the data field (63) and the ID field (62).
18. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 14 to 17, **wherein** the operation field (61) comprises information which indicates whether the protocol (60) relates to a message to be sent or a received message.

19. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 14 to 16, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises an information field for identifying a message to be sent or a received message.
20. The communications system (20) as claimed in claim 19, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) comprises at most the operation field (61), the data field (63), the ID field (62) and the information field.
21. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 20, **wherein** the ID field (62) designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) is produced or processed.
22. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 12 to 21, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) does not comprise a designation of the sending control device.
23. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 12 to 22, **wherein** the interface protocol (60) does not comprise a designation of the receiving control device.
24. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise a request for sending of a current value of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
25. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise a prompt for changing the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).

26. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise a prompt for confirming a change of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
27. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise an identification of sending of the current value of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
28. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise identification of a restart of a function assigned to information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
29. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** the operation field (61) as an allowable entry can comprise an identification of an error to be assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
30. The communications system (20) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, **wherein** it comprises an information memory for storage of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
31. Communications system (20) for a motor vehicle (1) for transmission of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) from a first control device to a second control device, the communications system (20) comprising an interface (160) for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the motor vehicle (1), **wherein** communications is possible by way of the interface (160) by means of a protocol (60) which comprises an ID field (62) for identification of a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), the contents of the ID field (62) being independent of whether

transmission takes place from the first control device to the second control device or from the second control device to the first control device.

32. Control module for control of a function of the motor vehicle (1) and/or for especially optical and/or acoustic output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), the control module comprising an interface (160) for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), **wherein** communications is possible by way of an interface (160), especially only by means of a protocol (60) which comprises an operation field (61) for identification of the task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
33. The control module as claimed in claim 32, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises a data field (63) with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
34. The control module as claimed in claim 32 or 33, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises an ID field (62) for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1).
35. The control module as claimed in claim 32, 33, or 34, **wherein** the operation field (61) comprises information which indicates whether the protocol (60) relates to a message to be sent or a received message.
36. The control module as claimed in claim 32, 33 or 34, **wherein** the protocol (60) comprises an information field for identification of a message to be sent or a received message.
37. The control module as claimed in one of claims 34 to 36, **wherein** the ID field (62) designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1) is produced or processed.

38. The control module as claimed in one of claims 32 to 37, **wherein** the control module is implemented on a control device, the protocol (60) not comprising a designation of the control device.
39. Control module for control of a function of the motor vehicle (1) or for output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), the control module comprising an interface (160) for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), **wherein** communications is possible by way of an interface (160) by means of a protocol (60) which comprises an ID field (62) for identification of the function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle (1), the contents of the ID field (62) being independent of whether the information from the control module is being sent or received.
40. Motor vehicle (1), **wherein** it has a communications system (20) as claimed in one of claims 1 to 31.
41. The motor vehicle as claimed in claim 40, **wherein** it has a control module as claimed in one of claims 32 to 39.
42. The motor vehicle (1), **wherein** it has a control module as claimed in one of claims 32 to 39.